

**Abstract****Membrane element and process for its production**

The invention relates to novel membrane elements, a process for their production and their use as filters, for example for ultrafiltration, nanofiltration, reverse osmosis, gas separation or pervaporation. The invention relates in particular to a membrane element comprising a core 9 and a sheath which encapsulates the core, where the sheath is formed from polymer films 10 which overlap one another at least to some extent and have been fused to one another in the overlap area.

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